

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

CHEP USA,

Plaintiff,

v.

No. 2:23-cv-634 KWR/KRS

GILLIS FARMS, INC. and  
DESERT SPRINGS PRODUCE, LLC,

Defendants.

**SCHEDULING ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** comes before the Court following a telephonic Rule 16 scheduling conference held on January 17, 2024. At the hearing, the Court adopted the parties' proposed Joint Status Report and Provisional Discovery Plan, with slight modifications, as reflected in the dates below

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the parties shall adhere to the following discovery plan:

- (a) Maximum of twenty-five (25) interrogatories by each party to any other party, with responses due thirty (30) days after service.
- (b) Maximum of twenty-five (25) requests for admission by each party to any other party, with responses due thirty (30) days after service.
- (c) Maximum of ten (10) depositions by Plaintiff, and ten (10) depositions by Defendants. Each deposition limited to maximum of seven (7) hours unless extended by agreement of the parties.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the following case management deadlines shall govern:

- (a) Deadline for Plaintiff to amend pleadings and join additional parties pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15: **May 28, 2024;**
- (b) Deadline for Defendants to amend pleadings and join additional parties pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15: **Fifteen days after any proposed amendment by Plaintiff;**
- (c) Deadline for Plaintiff's expert reports: **May 1, 2024;**
- (d) Deadline for Defendants' expert reports: **June 3, 2024;**
- (e) Termination of discovery: **August 26, 2024;**
- (f) Deadline for supplementing discovery/disclosures: Due within thirty (30) days of learning of information that gives rise to need to supplement;
- (g) Motions relating to discovery: **September 16, 2024;**
- (h) All other motions:<sup>1</sup> **September 26, 2024;**
- (i) Pretrial order: To be set by the presiding judge.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Court must approve any changes to the timing or scope of discovery, other than the parties' agreement to extend the length of a deposition made during the deposition in question. Requests by a party to change the timing or scope of discovery, other than a mutual agreement to extend a deposition reached during the deposition, must be made by motion and before the termination of discovery or the expiration of any applicable deadline. Discovery must be completed on or before the termination of the discovery deadline. A written discovery request must be propounded by a date which ensures that the

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<sup>1</sup> This deadline applies to motions related to the admissibility of experts or expert testimony that may require a *Daubert* hearing, but otherwise does not apply to motions *in limine*. The Court will set a motions *in limine* deadline in a separate order.

response to that request is due on or before the discovery deadline. The parties are further reminded that the cutoff for motions related to discovery does not relieve the party of the twenty-one (21) day time period under Local Rule 26.6 to challenge a party's objections to answering discovery. The parties are encouraged to review Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) to ensure they properly disclose *all* testifying witnesses, not just those for whom a report is required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kevin Sweazea". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Kevin" is written with a large, stylized "K" and "v". The last name "Sweazea" is written with a large, stylized "S" and "z".

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KEVIN R. SWEAZEA  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE